

and welcome to New York—but, two, are you guys committed to living in New York if she loses this Senate race?

The President. She decided, irrespective of the Senate race—I told her when we moved here, I said, “You know, ever since you came to Arkansas in 1973, we’ve lived where my work dictated and where I wanted to move. When we get out of here”—this is a 1993 conversation we had—“when get out of here, I’m going to have to spend a lot of time at home because I’ve got to build my library and my center there, and”—but I said, “but I will live wherever else you want to live.” And she told me years ago that she wanted to go to New York. And I said that’s fine with me. I love New York. I’d be happy to live there. It would be fine. So I’m going to divide my time between New York and Arkansas no matter what happens.

I talked to her three times yesterday; it was really, I think, an exciting day for her. She felt really good about it.

Mr. Herbert. Tough for a New York reporter—I’ve got to decide whether to cover her or cover you.

The President. She’s a better story now.

Mr. Herbert. She’s a great story.

The President. She’s a better story, but this is an important story, what we’ve been doing these last 3 days. I’m so thrilled. I hope I can persuade them to adopt the legislation by the end of the year. But I think all these business guys get interested; it’s really amazing. There is no partisan difference on this in the business community, and a lot of these guys that were with us in the last 2 or 3 days are Republicans. They’re just excited about it. They think it’s the right thing to do, and they think they can make money doing it. So do I.

Mr. Herbert. Thank you very much.

The President. Thanks.

NOTE: The interview began at approximately 11:30 a.m. on July 9 in the Presidential limousine en route to the Hilton Anaheim. In his remarks, the President referred to Richard L. Huber, chairman and chief executive officer, Aetna, Inc. The transcript was embargoed for release by the Office of the Press Secretary until 6 a.m. on July 11. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Statement on Releasing Funds Under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

July 12, 1999

In much of our Nation, the early part of summer has brought a chance to explore the outdoors or enjoy a day at the beach or lake. But in large parts of the eastern United States, these first weeks of summer have brought record high temperatures, extreme discomfort, and for some, severe danger.

Up and down the eastern seaboard, and as far west as Michigan, temperatures over the past 2 weeks soared to levels more than 30 percent higher than average for this time of year. Temperatures that hit the nineties and beyond can pose grave risks to the elderly, the very young,

the disabled, and the ill. Tragically, this heat wave has already claimed the lives of more than 100 people.

Today I am releasing \$100 million to help low income Americans in the affected areas cope with this terrible and life-threatening heat. These funds will help victims of the heat wave pay for the costs associated with home cooling, so that they are able to purchase air conditioners and fans and pay their electricity bills.

These resources will help protect the most vulnerable among us as the current heat wave runs its course.